

## ABSTRACT

### **DIAL ACCESS STACK ARCHITECTURE**

5           A Dial Access Stack Architecture (DASA) includes a stack of Network Access  
Servers (NASs) each independently establishing and processing information for  
communication links on a public telephone network. A primary interconnect couples  
the stack of network access servers together through a primary network. A routing  
engine is coupled through the primary interconnect to the stack of network access  
10 servers routing packets between the network access servers and an Internet network. A  
secondary interconnect couples the stack of network access servers together through a  
secondary network that operates independently of the primary interconnect. The  
primary or secondary interconnects each allow pairs of the network access servers to  
communicate with each other in parallel and independently of the routing engine. The  
15 DASA provides scalability and resiliency to fault conditions and can easily aggregate  
and integrate any new access media. Applications such as voice, video and  
multicasting can be seamlessly added. The DASA architecture can scale from  
hundreds to thousands of ports at optimal cost and performance while avoiding any  
single point of failure.